
3 Trigonometry

1. Triangles

In any triangle (in a plane) with sides a , b , and c and corresponding opposite angles A , B , C ,

$$\frac{a}{\sin A} = \frac{b}{\sin B} = \frac{c}{\sin C}. \quad (\text{Law of Sines})$$

$$a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos A. \quad (\text{Law of Cosines})$$

$$\frac{a+b}{a-b} = \frac{\tan \frac{1}{2}(A+B)}{\tan \frac{1}{2}(A-B)}. \quad (\text{Law of Tangents})$$

$$\sin \frac{1}{2}A = \sqrt{\frac{(s-b)(s-c)}{bc}}, \quad \text{where } s = \frac{1}{2}(a+b+c).$$

$$\cos \frac{1}{2}A = \sqrt{\frac{s(s-a)}{bc}}.$$

$$\tan \frac{1}{2}A = \sqrt{\frac{(s-b)(s-c)}{s(s-a)}}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area} &= \frac{1}{2}bc \sin A \\ &= \sqrt{s(s-a)(s-b)(s-c)}. \end{aligned}$$

If the vertices have coordinates $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), (x_3, y_3)$, the area is the *absolute value* of the expression

$$\frac{1}{2} \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & y_2 & 1 \\ x_3 & y_3 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

2. Trigonometric Functions of an Angle

With reference to [Figure 3.1](#), $P(x, y)$ is a point in either one of the four quadrants and A is an angle whose initial side is coincident with the positive x -axis and whose terminal side contains the point $P(x, y)$. The distance from the origin $P(x, y)$ is denoted by r and is positive. The trigonometric functions of the

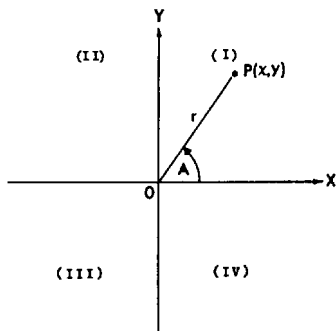


FIGURE 3.1. The trigonometric point. Angle A is taken to be positive when the rotation is counterclockwise and negative when the rotation is clockwise. The plane is divided into quadrants as shown.

angle A are defined as:

$$\sin A = \text{sine } A = y/r$$

$$\cos A = \text{cosine } A = x/r$$

$$\tan A = \text{tangent } A = y/x$$

$$\text{ctn } A = \text{cotangent } A = x/y$$

$$\sec A = \text{secant } A = r/x$$

$$\text{csc } A = \text{cosecant } A = r/y$$

Angles are measured in degrees or radians; $180^\circ = \pi$ radians; 1 radian = $180^\circ/\pi$ degrees.

The trigonometric functions of 0° , 30° , 45° , and integer multiples of these are directly computed.

	0°	30°	45°	60°	90°	120°	135°	150°	180°
sin	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	1	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0
cos	1	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$	$-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	-1
tan	0	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$	1	$\sqrt{3}$	∞	$-\sqrt{3}$	-1	$-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$	0
ctn	∞	$\sqrt{3}$	1	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$	0	$-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$	-1	$-\sqrt{3}$	∞
sec	1	$\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3}$	$\sqrt{2}$	2	∞	-2	$-\sqrt{2}$	$-\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3}$	-1
csc	∞	2	$\sqrt{2}$	$\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3}$	1	$\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3}$	$\sqrt{2}$	2	∞

3. Trigonometric Identities

$$\sin A = \frac{1}{\csc A}$$

$$\cos A = \frac{1}{\sec A}$$

$$\tan A = \frac{1}{\cot A} = \frac{\sin A}{\cos A}$$

$$\csc A = \frac{1}{\sin A}$$

$$\sec A = \frac{1}{\cos A}$$

$$\cot A = \frac{1}{\tan A} = \frac{\cos A}{\sin A}$$

$$\sin^2 A + \cos^2 A = 1$$

$$1 + \tan^2 A = \sec^2 A$$

$$1 + \cot^2 A = \csc^2 A$$

$$\sin(A \pm B) = \sin A \cos B \pm \cos A \sin B$$

$$\cos(A \pm B) = \cos A \cos B \mp \sin A \sin B$$

$$\tan(A \pm B) = \frac{\tan A \pm \tan B}{1 \mp \tan A \tan B}$$

$$\sin 2A = 2 \sin A \cos A$$

$$\sin 3A = 3 \sin A - 4 \sin^3 A$$

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$$\sin nA = 2 \sin(n-1)A \cos A - \sin(n-2)A$$

$$\cos 2A = 2 \cos^2 A - 1 = 1 - 2 \sin^2 A$$

$$\cos 3A = 4 \cos^3 A - 3 \cos A$$

$$\cos nA = 2 \cos(n-1)A \cos A - \cos(n-2)A$$

$$\sin A + \sin B = 2 \sin \frac{1}{2}(A+B) \cos \frac{1}{2}(A-B)$$

$$\sin A - \sin B = 2 \cos \frac{1}{2}(A+B) \sin \frac{1}{2}(A-B)$$

$$\cos A + \cos B = 2 \cos \frac{1}{2}(A+B) \cos \frac{1}{2}(A-B)$$

$$\cos A - \cos B = -2 \sin \frac{1}{2}(A+B) \sin \frac{1}{2}(A-B)$$

$$\tan A \pm \tan B = \frac{\sin(A \pm B)}{\cos A \cos B}$$

$$\operatorname{ctn} A \pm \operatorname{ctn} B = \pm \frac{\sin(A \pm B)}{\sin A \sin B}$$

$$\sin A \sin B = \frac{1}{2} \cos(A-B) - \frac{1}{2} \cos(A+B)$$

$$\cos A \cos B = \frac{1}{2} \cos(A-B) + \frac{1}{2} \cos(A+B)$$

$$\sin A \cos B = \frac{1}{2} \sin(A+B) + \frac{1}{2} \sin(A-B)$$

$$\sin \frac{A}{2} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos A}{2}}$$

$$\cos \frac{A}{2} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 + \cos A}{2}}$$

$$\tan \frac{A}{2} = \frac{1 - \cos A}{\sin A} = \frac{\sin A}{1 + \cos A} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos A}{1 + \cos A}}$$

$$\sin^2 A = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \cos 2A)$$

$$\cos^2 A = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos 2A)$$

$$\sin^3 A = \frac{1}{4}(3 \sin A - \sin 3A)$$

$$\cos^3 A = \frac{1}{4}(\cos 3A + 3 \cos A)$$

$$\sin ix = \frac{1}{2}i(e^x - e^{-x}) = i \sinh x$$

$$\cos ix = \frac{1}{2}(e^x + e^{-x}) = \cosh x$$

$$\tan ix = \frac{i(e^x - e^{-x})}{e^x + e^{-x}} = i \tanh x$$

$$e^{x+iy} = e^x(\cos y + i \sin y)$$

$$(\cos x \pm i \sin x)^n = \cos nx \pm i \sin nx$$

4. Inverse Trigonometric Functions

The inverse trigonometric functions are multiple valued, and this should be taken into account in the use of the following formulas.

$$\begin{aligned}\sin^{-1} x &= \cos^{-1} \sqrt{1-x^2} \\ &= \tan^{-1} \frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} = \operatorname{ctn}^{-1} \frac{\sqrt{1-x^2}}{x} \\ &= \sec^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} = \operatorname{csc}^{-1} \frac{1}{x} \\ &= -\sin^{-1}(-x)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\cos^{-1} x &= \sin^{-1} \sqrt{1-x^2} \\ &= \tan^{-1} \frac{\sqrt{1-x^2}}{x} = \operatorname{ctn}^{-1} \frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \\ &= \sec^{-1} \frac{1}{x} = \operatorname{csc}^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \\ &= \pi - \cos^{-1}(-x)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\tan^{-1} x &= \operatorname{ctn}^{-1} \frac{1}{x} \\ &= \sin^{-1} \frac{x}{\sqrt{1+x^2}} = \cos^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x^2}} \\ &= \sec^{-1} \sqrt{1+x^2} = \operatorname{csc}^{-1} \frac{\sqrt{1+x^2}}{x} \\ &= -\tan^{-1}(-x)\end{aligned}$$